

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES
FREDERICK COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

November 3, 2021

**Joint Meeting with the Frederick County Public Schools Board of Education
Career & Technology Center Spires Café
7922 Opossumtown Pike, Frederick, Maryland**

In Attendance:

Frederick Community College – Trustees Tom Lynch, Chair; Carolyn Kimberlin, Vice Chair; Ellis Barber; Gary Fearnow; Theodore Luck; and Dr. John Molesworth. Also in attendance: Interim President Dr. Thomas Powell, Secretary/Treasurer of the Board; Beth Duffy, Executive Director for Dual Enrollment; Andrew McClain, Dual Enrollment and Early College Coordinator; Dr. Tony Hawkins, Provost/Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs, Continuing Education, and Workforce Development; and Kari Melvin, Executive Associate to the President and Board of Trustees/Recording Secretary.

Frederick County Public Schools – Board of Education (BOE) President Jay Mason; BOE Vice President Karen Yoho; and BOE members David Bass, Jason “Mr. J.” Johnson, and Sue Johnson; BOE Student Member of the Board Sam Starrs; Dr. Michael Markoe, Deputy Superintendent; Dr. Kevin Cuppett, Executive Director, Curriculum, Instruction and Innovation PreK-12; Dr. Keith Harris, Executive Director, Accelerating Achievement & Equity; Diana Sung, Coordinator, Dual Enrollment, Curriculum, Innovation, & Instruction; Larry Steinly, English Learners (EL) Supervisor; Dr. Kathy Gull, Coordinator of EL; Kathryn Fostik, outgoing Executive Assistant to the Board of Education; and Kathryn Rich, incoming Executive Assistant to the Board of Education.

Office of the Frederick County Executive – Janice Spiegel, Director of Education and Special Initiatives.

Early College Students – Abigail Bolcik, Gary Bonds III, Kaylie Musard, and Subhashree Susindran.

Frederick News-Post – Education Reporter Jillian Atelsek.

BOE President Jay Mason called the meeting to order at 4:36 p.m. BOE President Mason and Board of Trustees Chair Tom Lynch welcomed attendees and expressed appreciation for the collaboration between FCC and FCPS.

Chair Lynch announced that FCC was notified this week it is one of only two community colleges in Maryland among 150 institutions eligible to apply for the 2023 Aspen Prize for Community College Excellence and that FCC was also ranked second best community college in Maryland to earn an associate degree by University Headquarters. BOE President Mason congratulated FCC.

BOE President Mason led the Pledge of Allegiance.

All in attendance made self-introductions.

Dr. Hawkins and Dr. Cuppett provided updates on what was accomplished during the COVID pandemic and how FCC and FCPS enhanced and increased their partnership beginning in March 2020. Highlights included:

- **Weekly 30-minute meetings were established and held virtually to stay connected, examine issues at each institution, and figure out ways to share resources and help students.**
- **A data sharing project resulted in the ability to be more efficient and share ACCUPLACER scores and exemptions without violating or eroding the security between the FCC and FCPS platforms.**
- **Use of technology expanded to allow for registration, admission, and establishing and generating bills.**
- **The Early Foundations Program Grant was created to help traditionally underrepresented students visualize themselves in the college environment and introduce them to the FCC campus.**
- **A campus visit program was developed for 10th grade students, which includes a career assessment before the visit, a campus tour, a mock classroom experience, and the opportunity to hear from a student panel.**
- **Career and Technical Education (CTE) initiatives were included in an update on the Blueprint for Maryland's Future.**
- **An FCPS steering committee was formed, including community partners, to assess and study the Blueprint for Maryland's Future.**
- **FCPS and FCC are leading the way and pioneered the Academy of Health Professions program a couple of years ago, which is a model articulated in the Blueprint for Maryland's Future.**
- **The FCPS SUCCESS Program and FCC Thrive Program provide inclusive higher education, offering adult students with intellectual disabilities access to educational programming alongside their peers.**
- **FCPS and FCC worked jointly on developing common curriculum for Humanities 101, which is offered at both FCC and as a dual enrollment course in the high schools.**
- **An open educational resource (OER) was identified for ENGL 102, which is available to students at no cost.**
- **Temporary exemptions were provided for students in lieu of demonstrating College and Career Readiness during the pandemic through testing and grades. The exemptions have been approved for another year and the data will be monitored and reviewed.**

Dr. Cuppett and Dr. Hawkins expressed appreciation to the many staff members at FCPS and FCC who worked on these initiatives.

Ms. Sung and Ms. Duffy provided an update on the dual enrollment partnership. Highlights included:

- **High school based dual enrollment has grown from 794 in fall 2016 to 1,228 in fall 2021.**
- **Open campus dual enrollment has grown from 284 in fall 2016 to 345 in fall 2021.**

- There are 109 sections of dual enrollment this fall.
- FCPS has fewer than 5% of the total population of Maryland high school students and 10.2% of all dual enrollment students in the state.
- Growth in dual enrollment has continued through the pandemic.
- The participation of underrepresented student groups is being tracked to make sure all students have access and opportunity.
- Over 50% of FCPS graduating seniors have participated in dual enrollment, which is about a 3% increase from last year. Participation has increased for Black or African American students by 8%, Latino or Hispanic students by 5%, students eligible for free/reduced meals by 5%, and special education students by 4%.
- FCPS worked with FCC staff on the Board of Trustees Annual Strategic Priority last year to implement racial equity interventions to close existing gaps in access and success for Black/African American and Latino/a/x students.
- Outreach is now also being provided to middle school students and counselors.
- New High School Based opportunities include ESOL 100/LA – English for Academic Purposes/Language Acquisition, MATH101A – Foundations of Mathematics, and Global Humanities.
- Ms. Duffy and Mr. McClain met with community groups, including Centro Hispano de Frederick, SHIP of Frederick County, Frederick Housing Authority, and the NAACP, to promote dual enrollment opportunities.
- Students, families, and FCPS personnel are being educated on accessibility.

Mr. McClain provided an update on the Early College at FCC. Highlights included:

- The Early College at FCC is selective admissions program. Students must apply, be interviewed, and have their applications reviewed by an admissions committee. Up to 25 students are accepted.
- Two cohorts are currently going through program.
- The first class of 15 students will graduate in May 2022. Eight high schools are represented, six students identify with at least one underrepresented group, nine differed majors have been declared, and four students are maintaining a 4.0 GPA.
- The class of 2023 includes 25 students. Nine high schools are represented, 15 students identify with at least one underrepresented group, 14 differed majors have been declared, and 18 students are in a STEM program.
- What is unique about the Early College at FCC is that almost every major is offered to students.
- The Early College Suite in the Student Center includes a lounge which was finished right before the pandemic.

Mr. McClain then introduced early college students Subhashree Susindran and Abigail Bolcik (class of 2022) and Kaylie Musard and Gary Bonds III (class of 2023). The students each shared their major, career goals, reasons for choosing Early College, and their experiences in the program. The following benefits of Early College were shared:

- The quality and variety of courses.
- The diversity of the student body.

- The ability to participate in FCC clubs, activities, and leadership roles while also maintaining relationships and opportunities for activities and sports at their high schools.
- The support received from FCC professors.
- The ability to graduate, transfer to a four-year institution, and obtain a job much faster.
- The freedom in scheduling classes and other responsibilities.

The following challenges were shared:

- Integrating to life on campus.
- Developing time management skills with the freedom this program provides.

Questions were answered and included:

- It was easy to get involved in FCC activities because of the FCC Club Fair, the FCC website that lists all of the clubs, the College Fair, and information tables that are frequently in the Student Center.
- Parents have been the motivating factor for getting involved in the Early College.
- Questions that are asked by peers are usually around how the Early College works and how to apply.
- The Early College is limited to 25 students because of staffing. Mr. McClain currently serves 40 students, which includes advising, registering for classes, and arranging social events and guest speakers.
- The Career and Technology Center bus has been an amazing resource in providing transportation for some students.

The students were congratulated for all of their good work.

Dr. Harris, Mr. Steinly, and Dr. Gull provided updates on the English Learners (EL) Program. Highlights included:

- EL students have grown from 200 in 2000 to 3,690 in 2021. There has been a 162% enrollment increase over past 10 years.
- There are 70 different languages spoken and 58 countries represented.
- FCPS and FCC continue to expand opportunities for students of diverse backgrounds, including ELs.
- The ESOL 100 course allows students to take college level coursework within the safe structure of their home high school and provides increased motivation to take more courses.
- Multiple measures identify which students should participate, including their grade in a previous English course, teacher recommendations, and English proficiency test scores.
- FCPS worked with FCC to identify highly qualified teachers.
- There are 19 EL students enrolled at Governor Thomas Johnson and Tuscarora High Schools and 11 are signed up for the spring.
- There are plans to offer another section next semester at Frederick High School.
- Discussions are currently being held for expansion of additional dual enrollment courses for EL students.

All attendees then watched a video on ESOL 100 Teacher and Student Testimonials.

Copies of the presentations are available from the President's Office.

In the interest of time, Chair Lynch and BOE President Mason decided to schedule another meeting to address the remaining items on the agenda. The importance of addressing the mental health of students and employees was stressed.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:29 p.m.

**Dr. Thomas Powell
Secretary/Treasurer**

**Prepared by Kari Melvin
Office of the President
Frederick Community College**